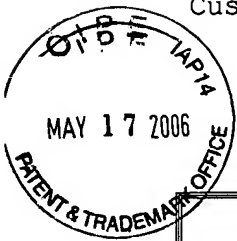


Attorney No. 129843-1104 (HARD1.090A4)
Customer No. 60148

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
APPLICATION NO. 10/648,009

1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Express Mail Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. §1.10

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL 994557421 US
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I, Stella E. Laicer, hereby certify that this paper (along with any papers and fees referred to as being attached or enclosed or actually enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above, with sufficient postage, and is addressed as follows:

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stella E. Laicer".

Signature of person mailing paper

In re Application of: Amlan Datta, et al.

Application No.: 10/648,009

Filing Date: October 2, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1755

Examiner: Paul A. Marcantoni

For: Synthetic Microspheres and Methods of Making Same

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attorney No. 129843-1104 (HARD1.090A4)
Customer No. 60148

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
APPLICATION NO. 10/648,009

2

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
OFFICE ACTION MAILED January 17, 2006

Dear Sir:

Applicants first wish to thank the Examiner for convening two telephone interviews on April 12, 2006, and May 17, 2006. Applicants further submit this Amendment and Response in view of such telephone interviews and respectfully requests entry of the amendment set forth herein and consideration of the remarks provided with this paper.

This Amendment is filed in reply to an Office Action mailed January 17, 2006, that established a three-month shortened statutory time period to respond. Applicants submit that this response is timely filed in view of a Petition for Extension of Time of one-month, which is duly filed herewith.

The Amendment provided with this paper includes:

Amendments to the Claims that begin on page 3;

Remarks that begin on page 5;

Conclusion that begins on page 17 of this paper; and

Appendix provided at the end of this paper that includes a copy of a Material Safety Data Sheet.